

# Regional Rambler

Living Skies Regional Council  
The United Church of Canada



## November 19, 2025 – Events

*The **Regional Rambler** is our primary resource for sharing information across the Regional Council. To be added to the receiving list, please email Bev Diebert at [bdiebert@united-church.ca](mailto:bdiebert@united-church.ca)*

In this **EVENTS** edition of the Rambler, events are (mostly) listed in order of occurrence. For easy identification: **Date/s of the event** are highlighted in green; **Registration deadlines** are highlighted in dark orange; Events included for the first time will have **NEW:** beside the title of the event. And, it's hoped the **Into the future** section will help facilitate your long-term planning.

**United in Learning** - Find what's new in the [latest newsletter from the national church's online education, action and community program](#). Upcoming opportunities include a cross-country check up, and much more. **E-ssentials and more** – Please see the [very handy latest national newsletters](#), which goes over highlights for national work.

**Check out the Community of Faith Calendar** (on the Living Skies Regional Council website - 3<sup>rd</sup> option under News & Events). **Be sure to browse** the list for fun and interesting upcoming events. [Click here to view it](#). **Communities of Faith**, be sure to **submit your events** to the calendar (use the form, 4<sup>th</sup> option down under News & Events), so folks don't miss the festivities.

## This Week's Events:

**\*Online Bible study - every Wednesday at 1 pm (SK time)** Contact [jcantwell@united-church.ca](mailto:jcantwell@united-church.ca) for more information. Click here to join: <https://bit.ly/41Vh93V> *New participants always welcome!*

**Engagement on Anti-Racism 2025 - continuing Wednesdays to November 26, 2025, 6:00 p.m. ET**  
Please join us for this popular annual series! Weekly Wednesday events are opportunities to delve deeply into anti-racism work: **Live events each Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. Eastern Time**; **Videos for each week**, with faith reflections and action items and a **downloadable folder of materials** for leaders to run an anti-racism program. Please sign up for the [Anti-Racism newsletter](#) to continue to stay up to date! To learn more and to register, visit [CHURCHx](#).

**Covenanting Service** - Join the covenanting service between **Regina: Broadway** United Church (105 Broadway Ave.) and **Jenni Krall, tonight (Nov 19) at 6:30pm**. **Everyone welcome**.

**\*Strengthening Invitation** - the Growth Department prays each **Thursday at 11a-m Central / 10am Mountain** Register to join [here](#). Send your prayer request to [growth@united-church.ca](mailto:growth@united-church.ca) (you can send a request even if you're not attending)

### **Reminder: Ministry Personnel Prayer Gathering – a time to connect**

All ministry personnel – *active, retired, honorary associates, and candidates in appointment*, are warmly invite to a once a month, one hour online gathering on the **4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month (November 25)**. For details of what to bring and link information, [please see the calendar announcement](#). This is a simple space to pause, breathe, and remember we are not alone in ministry. Come for prayer, community and the gift of communion shared across our regions.

### **Transgender Week of Awareness, Transgender Day of Remembrance, and an online service:**

**Transgender Week of Awareness** culminates in **Transgender Day of Remembrance**. The week takes place from **November 13- 19**. Affirm United will share a story of an historical Transgender or Non-Binary person or event each day in podcast and written formats. They will be posted to the [Affirm United/S'affirmer Ensemble social media and website](#).

On **Thursday, November 20 at 3 pm ET / 1 pm MT**, you are invited to a service of remembrance online ([Register at this link](#)). The service will be pre-recorded, but we will have a time after the service for anyone who wishes to talk. This November, let us all remember those who have lost their lives by violence or suicide. Let us remember those from the past who never stopped being themselves. Let us remember and share their light.

### **Online Intercultural Workshop and WIMN AGM - Beyond the Chinese Face: Challenges Faced by Chinese in Canada, Thursday, November 20, 2025, at 12:30 PM MST, online**

Join three UCC ministers from the Chinese Association of The United Church of Canada to hear their insights on aspects of Chinese culture, serving English congregations in Canada, and outreach to Hong Kong diaspora. Presenters: Rev. Dr. Alan Lai, Rev. Mini Choi, and Rev. Calin Lau. WIMN AGM follows. [Full details at this link!](#)

### **NEW: Posture of a Porter: Mini-Devotional for Advent**

Discover what an ancient monastic rule can teach us about welcoming newcomers with this mini devotional, available as a [Word Doc](#) or printable [PDF booklet](#). This packet also comes with an accompanying [art piece](#). Use any and all of this resource in your own spiritual practice, with a group (including leadership teams) or as part of worship (this includes the right to reproduce the artwork with accompanying credit: Aaron Miechkota, 2025).

### **United Church's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary:**

#### **Updated: Short reminders of our history for this Centennial year continue**

As we enter the month of The United Church of Canada's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, here is another of Gayle Simonson's very short stories about United Church history. Many thanks to Gayle, who offers us these 100-word history vignettes for use in your own community! **Please remember to credit!** For our *thirty-first, thirty-second, thirty-third and thirty-fourth* vignettes, she writes:

**NEW:** Like father, like son! Both ministers, Aubrey and George Tuttle served as principals of Alberta College South/St. Stephen's College (1919-1926 and 1966-1979) and as moderators (1940-1942 and 1977-1978). For both it was a time of change for the colleges. Aubrey oversaw the amalgamation of the Methodist and Presbyterian colleges in Edmonton at church union. For George, the UCC wanted to amalgamate training for ordination on the prairies in Saskatoon. It was also a time of societal change and George wondered, "How do we make the gospel relevant in situations that are real?" He worked with the U. of A. and the Catholic St. Joseph's College, transforming to continuing education for ministers, lay education and ecumenical work. It was a positive evolution that continues to this day.

**NEW:** Following union, the United Church Woman's Missionary Society took over support for the medical missions across the country that had been founded by the Methodist and Presbyterian women. Nurses Margaret Mustard and Annetta Sinclair were assigned to Gypsumville, Manitoba in 1928, where they also helped build a church. In 1931, Mustard arranged for a visiting dentist but there were more patients than he could handle. He quickly taught her to extract teeth and in a 10-day period she "pulled 93 teeth using the painless extraction method." Across the prairies, others were also pressed into service. Alberta minister David Simpson recalled that, "we college

boys had been told that you always carried forceps to pull teeth. Well, I carried first aid material for many years.”

**NEW:** Though born in southern Alberta, Kazuo Iwaasa faced discrimination there during World War II. Lethbridge Presbytery had tried to support the Japanese at the time. Perhaps that is what led him post-war to join the United Church. He felt called to ministry and was ordained in 1959. After work in Blairmore, All People’s Mission in Winnipeg, Bassano and a year of study, he became minister of church in society with Central and Knox churches in downtown Calgary. Shortly before his death in 1982, he was awarded an honorary Doctor of Divinity from St. Stephen’s College. Since 2000, to honour his dedication to human rights and social justice, the Dept. of Classics and Religion at the University of Calgary has held the Iwaasa Lecture on Urban Theology.

**NEW:** Nurse Mina Pool worked in rural northern Alberta for three years before studying for diaconal ministry, the most common route to ministry for women in the early 1960s. After six years in Hudson Bay, Saskatchewan, unable to serve communion or perform baptisms and marriages for those she had come to know well, she felt diaconal ministry was incomplete. She returned to study for a Bachelor of Divinity and was ordained in 1972. Apparently, men interviewed for ordination were questioned about pouring tea. She was asked if she could replace a flat tire. Her response? In her work in northern health, “I had 47 flat tires and carried four spares all the time. I even learned to change a tire with nothing but a white dress on and get nothing but my hands dirty! ... They decided I could handle it”.

## Into the Future:

### **'Kindle in Us the Fire of Your Love' - The Holy Spirit as Hope, Peace, and Unrest**

A four-week series offered by Don Schweitzer, PhD on Zoom; **Thursdays, January 22, 29, February 5 & 12 from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. (CST)** To learn more and register:

<https://www.spiritrivercommunity.org/courses/'kindle-in-us> . A workshop offered by **Spirit River Community: A Retreat Centre Without Walls:** <https://www.spiritrivercommunity.org/>

### **Save the Date for *Collective* - a national youth event in Summer 2026**

Start thinking about youth connected to your community of faith that might be interested in joining a group from Saskatchewan to travel together! For more information: <https://united-church.ca/events/collective-2026-embrace-impact>

### **Calling All Communities of Faith**

The next Living Skies Regional Council “In-person” Meeting is **May 27-30, 2027**. The Regional Council Meeting Planning Committee (RCMPC) is looking for a community to host. Hosting means forming a Local Arrangements Committee to work with the RCMPC to find appropriate meeting/eating/book room/display space for approximately 200 delegates. Worship Space for the Service of Praise will also be needed. Closer to the meeting more details and decisions will be made. Finding a Host Community and Venue early is very important for planning this kind of event. If your Community of Faith might be interested please contact Miles Russell (Chair of RCMPC) at [russella@sasktel.net](mailto:russella@sasktel.net) or Bev Diebert (Admin Support Staff) at [bdiebert@united-church.ca](mailto:bdiebert@united-church.ca) .

*“Hear this, all you peoples; listen, all who live in this world, both low and high, rich and poor alike”*  
*Psalm 49:1-2*